MARYLAND AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

FARM ADVISER

News Notes from the Field of the Extension Service, Released for Publication Every Two Weeks From the Office of the Director of Extension.

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NOTICE

The purpose of the Farm Adviser is to furnish a convenient and timely medium for supplying news notes regarding the work of the Agricultural College, Experiment Station, and Extension Service, in co-operation with the U. S. Department of Agriculture to the local press and to county demonstration agents with a view to keeping them and the people throughout the State informed of the activities of these agricultural agencies in their behalf. All requests for copies of this sheet should be directed to Reuben Brigham, In Charge of Publications, The Extension Service, College Park, Maryland.

MARYLAND WEEK CLUB EXHIBITS

If you would see the cream of the Maryland Week Exhibition, turn to the Club Exhibit Class, in which the various neighborhoods of the State are entered in friendly rivalry. Among these exhibits you will find something more than excellent home and farm products or the ambition of one exhibitor to lead his competitors in some special field of excellence. Here we see the highest type of team work, a group of country men and women from some distant neighborhood, who have been inspired with an ambition to let the people of the State know what their community can accomplish as a whole. It is the spirit which is redeeming the agriculture of Maryland today. It is the first step toward a united effort on the part of the country folk to raise their standard of living and make their children ambitious to excel in country pursuits. So if you would see something more than merely a wonderful display of agricultural products, go look at these booths, talk to the people who brought them there, and know something of the progress that is stirring our country communities of to-day.

Each booth has its story, the story of a neighborhood whose people have gotten together to make it a fitter place to live in. Each booth stands for a step forward in the progress in their lives, and realization from year to year of the many things which they as a united neighborhood people have to be thankful for. You will find among them the experienced competitors of several seasons; you will find as well the folk who have come down for their first time to learn for themselves the lesson of how to show the world their best in agricultural production. They will go back to their communities, each with a better idea of what to strive for as a community, and with a determination to place themselves sooner or later among the leaders in the country life of the State.

Look at the variety and excellence of the products they display, study the effect of each booth as expressing some idea of beauty or attraction, make the acquaintance of the people who have made the booth possible. Learn something of the effort they put forth to get together, of the pains they took to select the best their farms and homes could produce, of the expense and trouble they went to in collecting their exhibits, making their booth, and bringing it to Baltimore for all the State to see. If you have lived in the country, you know something of what this effort cost. If you have not, we are sorry for you—you will not understand to the fullest what the Club Exhibit Class means, but at least you can appreciate its beauty, the keenness of the competition, and the pride which the country takes in showing to the city the best it has.

FARMERS' INSTITUTE SEASON OPENS SUCCESSFULLY

College Park, Md., Nov. 10.

The first Farmers' Institute of the season met with gratifying success, being held in connection with the Agricultural High Schools at Surrattsville and Baden, Prince Georges county, October 28 and November 4, respectively.

Dr. Richard S. Hill, Director of Farmers' Institutes, has an unusually exacting schedule under preparation for his field force this winter, which has resulted from the rapidly increasing appreciation of the valuable work that is being done along this line. Agricultural educators are realizing more and more what a debt scientific agriculture owes to the farmers' institute as a powerful champion and pioneer in blazing the way for the permanent agricultural school and local farmers' organization. Working in co-operation with the County Demonstrrtion Agents of Maryland, the Farmers' Institute promises to become more than ever the medium for bringing to the farmer the advanced thought and practice of modern agriculture. In no better way can a local farmers' or community organization render service to its community than by co-operating with the Department of Farmers' Institutes in holding a meeting in

their locality. Today and the balance of the week is being spent in Washington and Alleghany counties, experts from the Extension Service cooperating with Dr. Hill in giving lectures on the packing of apples and the handling of plant diseases.. The full advance schedule of Farmers' Institutes for the winter will be published at a later date.

NEIGHBORHOOD SHORT COURSES WILL BE CONDUCTED BY EXTENSION SERVICE

College Park, Md., Nov. 13.

Plans are now being made by the Extension Service, in co-operation with the Farmers' Institute department of the Maryland Agricultural College to continue the work inaugurated last year, of holding Movable Schools or Neighborhood Short Courses in Agriculture and Home Economics in different sections of the State during the winter months.

These courses were a great success last year. These schools are not in the nature of an institute, but supplement this class of instruction. These short courses will be conducted for four days at any given place. They are designed to furnish for the farmers and farmer's wives and particularly the young men and women in the farm homes an opportunity to secure through a series of complete and regular lectures, and practical demonstrations, information on a given phase of farming or home making that the individual or community is especially interested in.

On account of limited funds and teaching staff only a small number of these Neighborhood Courses can be conducted this year, Every effort will be made, however, to make these practical and useful to the community. For this same reason courses can be held only in those places where the people of the community are deeply interested in securing them, and are willing to put time and energy into making them a success. It is desired to conduct this work during December, January and February.

Local communities interested in these Neighborhood Short Courses should communicate with the Extension Service, Maryland Agricultural College, College Park, Maryland, at an early date.

BOYS' CORN CLUB EXHIBITS PROVE STRONG ATTRACTIONS

College Park, Md., Nov. 11.

One of the most attractive features of the Queen Anne County School Fair and Rally was the splendid Boys' Corn Club exhibit in charge of County Agent H. S. Koehler. Mr. Koehler has been especially active in Boys' Club Work, having started the holding of club exhibits several years ago in connection with his work as agricultural teacher in Centerville High School. It was a pleasure for anyone to meet the score of his Corn Club boys who had weathered the disasterous crop conditions of the past season, and had measured up to every requirement of the Demonstration rules. The highest yield recorded in his county is 105 bushels of shelled corn, which is considerably higher than the yield made by the State champion last year, who was also from Queen Anne county. The cost of production which counts equally with the yield in determining these Corn Club contests was as low as fourteen cents in one case, which is rather unusual. Many of our older farmers have also learned from the Club work that in crop production, a high yield and low cost of production are inseperable in achieving practical success.

The value of exhibits such as were held at Centerville cannot be too favorably commended. Similar exhibits are being held in every county where a Demonstration Agent has been employed. It has become well recognized that the boy demonstrator is fully the equal of his father in demonstrating to his community the value of improved methods of corn production. Successful local exhibits are being held this week in connection with Boys' Club work in Calvert, Anne Arundel, Dorchester, Charles, Somerset, Worcester and Harford counties. The cream of these exhibits will be sent to the Maryland Week exhibition at the Fifth Regiment Armory, November 16th to 20th.

In addition to sending the best of their exhibits to Baltimore, a large number of the prize winners in the county contests are expected to attend the Exhibition, taking part in a special program which is being prepared for their entertainment by the business men of Baltimore, one of the latter having very generously offered $200 toward paying the travelling expenses of the boy prize winners.

MARYLAND POULTRYKEEPERS SHOULD MAKE USE OF INSTRUCTION OFFERED BY THEIR AGRICULTURAL COLLEGE

College Park, Md., Nov. 13.

Maryland poultrykeepers would do well to keep themselves informed regarding the practical information which can be secured from their Agricultural College. The problem of feeding for egg production is of especial interest at the present time. Much valuable information can be secured from bulletins published by the Maryland Experiment Station, and by correspondence with its Poultry Department.

The usual short course in Poultry Husbandry will be held at the Agricultural College during the third week in January. Prominent poultrymen with extensive practical experience have been secured to cooperate in giving lectures and demonstrations with Roy H. Waite, who is poultryman for the Experiment Station.

The Extension Service has also announced that it will conduct a limited number of short courses in poultrykeeping in localities where there is a demand for such instruction. This enables the busy poultrykeeper to learn about the latest improvements in poultry management, at little cost, and without having to leave his home and flock over night.

The latest addition to the work of the Extension Service is the offering of correspondence courses in Agriculture and Home Economics. In this connection a special course in poultry feeding is offered. The course is based on a scientific study of Maryland conditions as they effect the poultry industry, and should prove of much value to the poultrykeeper.